

# stouffville sports



Photo/LORI EMMERSON

## A total team effort

A Stouffville player (far left) watches as a Toronto goalkeeper and two defenders scramble to save this puck from entering the net during action in the Stouffville Minor Atom Hockey Tournament at the Rec Centre on Saturday.

## Spartans cage first win

Jason Cowan's layup basket with just seconds left in the game gave the Stouffville District Secondary School Spartan senior boys' basketball team a dramatic 60-58 comeback victory over Newmarket H.S. in York Region Secondary School Athletic Association action last week.

The win, which saw the Spartans bounce back after trailing by 22 points going into the second half, was the first of the season after 11 losses.

"We came on like gangbusters," enthused Spartans' co-coach Jim Fletcher. "After the first half Mackie (co-coach Bill McKnight) and I told the boys they can't quit, that we thought we could run these guys into the ground. And we ran right by them."

The Spartans resorted to a man to man defence in the second half as they began to narrow the gap. Key steals by Brian Snooks and Jermain Franklin enabled the SDSS outfit to tie the score at 58 a piece with less

than a minute to play.

Cowan, who had been removed late in the game because of foul trouble, came back in time to strip the ball at mid court with six seconds remaining. He then drove to the hoop and sunk the game winner.

Fletcher heaped praise on his players, saying it was a genuine team effort. "Don Patten kept the team alive when Cowan ran into foul trouble, and Kevin Barbe made an incredible sky hook. Snooks, Franklin, and Cowan applied tremendous pressure on defence, and Steve Emes was great on defence and had eight rebounds."

Snooks led the Spartans points parade with 17. Barbe contributed 14 points, all in the second half, while picking off several key rebounds. Cowan, Emes, and Franklin had 10 points each.

The Spartans were to finish out the regular season with a home game against Markville S.S. Monday.

## Spartan juniors hoop it up in overtime; midgets downed

The Stouffville District Secondary School junior boys' basketball team came up big in overtime in a tripleheader with visiting Newmarket H.S. in York Region Secondary School Athletic Association action last week.

But for the school's midget squad, it was a matter of having all systems shut down in the fourth quarter.

The junior Spartans, led by the outstanding play of Jason Reesor and the timely scoring of Steve U'Ren, prevailed 59-56 in a contest that required an extra period to decide. Reesor poured in 15 points, including eight points from the free throw line in the fourth quarter to keep his team in the game.

Reesor also hauled down nine rebounds, earned three steals, and a

trio of blocked shots to his credit.

U'Ren caught fire in overtime, going for the hoop for eight points to give the Spartans their biggest win of the season.

The midget Spartans trailed by a slim 30-29 margin going into the final quarter.

But they were over run by their Newmarket opponents in the late going, losing 61-36.

Spartans head coach Andy Cherkas said his team was as cold as Newmarket was hot in the game's final minutes.

"They (Newmarket) started hitting their shots and we started fouling," said Cherkas.

"They weren't missing, and we went cold, we panicked. Everything that could possibly go wrong did."

Paul Koert led the Spartan scoring

with 10 points. Jay Hoover had six points, while Chris Karam, James Bowen, and Craig Wood chipped in with five, four, and three points respectively.

The junior and midget Spartans were to close out the regular season schedule with contests against Markville S.S. at home on Monday.

## Spartan players hope to spike it in the pros

### SPORT NOTES

bruce stapley



A pair of Stouffville District Secondary School athletes had their day in the sun last week.

Actually, it was the Star, the Toronto Star, as the school's Tim Lavell and Brian Snooks were featured - complete with simulated action picture - in the paper's North York/York section Thursday.

The article told of how the two Senior Spartan volleyball mainstays were looking to establish themselves in Switzerland's pro volleyball circuit.

Lavell, who played some pro volleyball when he was in Switzerland on a student exchange program last year, is hoping to attend the University of Geneva come September. He would like to play pro volleyball in his spare time.

Snooks is also planning to go to Switzerland to play for pay next season.

Both boys spent this past December time working out with a Swiss Division B volleyball team.

Spartan volleyball guru/coach Jim Fletcher says the Star picked up on the story idea after reading a recent Sports Notes column where I pointed out how the pair were in the land of the loud yodel trying out for pro volleyball squad.

Just goes to prove two things: First, that the major media does care about what goes on out in the boonies; and second, that we at the Tribune are a good month or so ahead of the big Toronto dailies!

Thursday was also the day that Fletcher and Bill McKnight's beleaguered Spartan senior boys' basketball team had its exploits broadcast across the Greater Toronto Region air waves.

Thanks to the initiative of a certain Trib sports hack, news of

the Spartans long-awaited first victory of the season was announced on CISS FM, the monstrously successful "New Country" radio station. The station's morning man Cliff Dumas told the world how the Spartans had finally won a game after enduring a string of 11 losses.

The Spartans' come-from-behind, 60-58 win over Newmarket H.S. was greeted with a rousing, though slightly tongue-in-cheek, cheer by the CISS morning staff.

Make sure you check out the sports page of this Saturday's Weekender. I have it on good authority there is to be a major sports-related proposal made at tonight's (Tuesday) council meeting.

I was asked not to reveal the name of the person who is to make the surprise presentation.

I can, however, tell you it's not Ed Hakonson, and it's not about bringing a Junior B hockey team to town. But I would imagine it might have something to do with hockey, as this individual has a strong Junior hockey background. Stay tuned.

Stouffville runners Fred Robbins and Kim Kavluk are hoping to enter the annual Half Marathon in Peterborough Feb. 28. The two have been training extensively in preparation for the 13-mile event, racking up as many as 100 km's a week.

Kavluk has made several appearances in the Boston marathon in recent years.

Robbins, a former high school track star in Toronto, is the man behind the new Stouffville Track Club. He hopes to bring together all the lonely joggers he sees criss crossing around town when the club opens up this spring.

His goal in forming the club is simple - "To promote a good life style." Robbins told me he planned to warm up for the Peterborough race by entering the second annual "Thrill on the Hill" this month. The 10-k event is run through Richmond Hill.

## Skaters earn passing grades

Bonnie Thompson, Meaghan Crowder, Janice Boyd, Krystle Raptis, Sean Chubbuck, and Christiana Little all passed their Preliminary Figures at the Stouffville Figure Skating Club's recent primary testing.

Sara Pickering passed part 2 of her first figure, while Karen Boyd passed her second figure. Others to pass included: Nicole Sooley, Amanda Wideman, Marlee Johnson, Natalie Goss (Dutch Waltz); Bobbie Ann Radford; Amanda Wideman, Natalie Jelenski (Canasta); Mary Jo Radford, Sandra Brown, Jessica Wilcock, Lianne McMullen, Samantha Alston (passed Baby Blues and completed Preliminary Dances section); Vilja Roman, Metsmaa and Christiana Little (Junior Bronze Dance, Swing); Helen Raptis, April Cody (Fiesta).